

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CARACA 03992 212341Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 DODE-00
ERDA-05 PM-04 /071 W
-----212346Z 055149 /66

R 212130Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CARACASO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 3992

EO 11652 GDS
TAGS: TECH ENRG IAEA VE
SUBJ: VENEZUELAN REQUEST FOR HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM
REF: A STATE 47388 B CARACAS 14499

1. EMBOFF REVIEWED DEPT'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFO WITH CAPT JESUS TABORDA, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF GOV'S NATIONAL NUCLEAR COUNCIL (CONAN). TABORDA REPLIED THAT PRINCIPAL REASON BEHIND GOV REQUEST FOR 93 PERCENT ENRICHED URANIUM RATHER THAN 20 PERCENT WAS ECONOMIC AND NOT TECHNICAL. (SEE ALSO PARA 6 OF REF B). HE EXPLAINED THAT THERE WAS NO TECHNICAL REQUIREMENT AS SUCH FOR HIGHLY ENRICHED MATERIAL, BUT THAT SUCH MATERIAL HAD BEEN REQUESTED BECAUSE OF ITS LOWER EXPECTED COST, IN TERMS OF AVAILABLE NEUTRONS, RELATIVE TO 20 PERCENT ENRICHED MATERIAL. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT IF MATERIAL COULD BE OBTAINED AT NO COST, I E AS A GIFT UNDER US ANNUAL OFFER TO IAEA, THS WOULD NO LONGER BE A FACTOR AND URANIUM ENRICHED TO LESS THAN 20 PERCENT U-235 WOULD ADEQUATELY MEET GOV'S REQUIREMENTS.

2. TABORDA ASKED IF WE HAD RECEIVED ANY INDICATION THAT REQUESTED MATERIAL MIGHT BE PROVIDED AS A GIFT. WE ADVISED HIM THAT WE HAD NO INFO ONE WAY OR ANOTHER ON THIS POINT, BUT THAT USG WAS AWARE OF GOV'S INTEREST IN RECEIVING MATERIAL AS GIFT, SINCE THIS HAD BEEN EXPRESSED IN TABORDA'S
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INITIAL LETTER TO IAEA. WE ALSO CAUTIONED HIM, IN ACCORD WITH PARA 3 OF REF A, THAT OUR REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFO DID NOT NECESSARILY IMPLY APPROVAL OF SUPPLY OF MATERIAL.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ANY INDICATION DEPT CAN PROVIDE RE POSSIBLE AVAILABILITY OF URANIUM AS A GIFT TO GOV. WOULD

THIS POSSIBILITY BE INCREASED IF GOV REQUEST SPECIFIED
URANIUM ENRICHED TO LESS THAN 20 PERCENT U-235 RATHER THAN
93 PERCENT AS IT DOES NOW, AND WOULD EMBASSY THEREFORE BE
JUSTIFIED IN SUGGESTING TO CONAN THAT THEY AMEND THEIR REQUEST
TO IAEA TO SPECIFY LOWER LEVEL OF ENRICHMENT.
VAKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: URANIUM, NUCLEAR FUELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Date: 02-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2741415
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VENEZUELAN REQUEST FOR HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, VE, IAEA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fbf7b0a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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